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# COMMANDERS DIGEST

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# President Nixon Says U.S. Must Maintain Defensive Strength

President Richard M. Nixon believes the United States must maintain its defensive strength to put the country in a position where it would be first or at least equal to any potential enemy.

At his April 18 news conference, in answer to a question on the ABM, President Nixon said new intelligence estimates indicate that the Soviet strength was greater than the U.S. had thought.

The President added, "Under these circumstances, I had to make basically a command decision as to what the United States should do if we were to avoid falling into a second-class or inferior position vis-a-vis the Soviet Union.

"I had a number of options. We could have increased our offensive forces in various directions. I determined that this limited defensive action, limited insofar as the Soviet Union was concerned, to defend our Minuteman missile sites, was the best action that could be taken.

"I still believe that to be the case. I believe it is essential to avoid putting an American President, either this President or the next President, in the position where the United States would be second rather than

(Continued on Page 6, Column 1)

* * *

# Secretary Packard Impressed With U.S. Forces in Europe

Deputy Secretary of Defense David Packard visited Europe early in April and came away with a feeling of pride and admiration for the officers and men manning U. S. defense machinery.

Among his most vivid impressions was the skill, technical knowledge and spirit projected by the junior officers and enlisted men who work with complicated equipment in missile batteries, armored units, air squadrons, and in Polaris submarines.

Deputy Secretary Packard attended a number of briefings on his whirlwind orientation tour—some at the highest level and others conducted by junior officers and enlisted men.

On arrival at Stuttgart, Germany,

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TOUR OF BASES — Deputy Secretary of Defense David Packard, right, shown with Gen. Lyman L. Lemnitzer during recent visit to U.S. European Command Headquarters, Stuttgart, Germany. Also in photo are Air Force Gen. David A. Burchinal, left rear, and Richard Fryklund.

# New DOD Budget Is $77.5 Billion

The Department of Defense is reducing the January budget of $80.6 billion in new obligational authority by $3.1 billion for a new total of $77.5 billion.

And the end of DOD reductions may not yet be in sight. A Defense Department spokesman emphasized that defense spending remains under constant and continuing study.

He said he would not "want to foreclose the possibility" that Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird may recommend further cuts.

Deputy Secretary of Defense David Packard "has initiated a very aggressive program for review of the man-

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# Unilateral Troop Withdrawal Not Planned

President Nixon made it clear at his news conference April 18 that he was not considering the unilateral withdrawal of American troops from Vietnam.

Asked about that possibility, the President said: "I am not. If we are to have a negotiating position at the Paris peace talks, it must be a position in which we can negotiate from strength and discussion about unilateral withdrawal does not help that position."

The President also said he had not ordered or did not intend to order any reduction of U.S. activity in Vietnam. "We will do what is necessary to defend our position and to maintain the strength of our bargaining position in the Paris peace talks," he said.

# Gen. Chapman Assesses Marine Corps Manpower Situation, Commitments

The major manpower efforts of the Marine Corps today are aimed at sustaining the strength necessary to meet its commitments in the Western Pacific while still maintaining uncommitted forces at adequate levels of readiness.

That assessment was made by Gen. Leonard F. Chapman, Jr., Commandant of the Marine Corps, before the Senate Armed Services Committee

Gen. Chapman told the lawmakers that today's Marine Corps is the second largest in its history having expanded since the summer of 1965 from a force of 193,000 officers and men to more than 313,000. The Corps is currently authorized an end strength of 313,400 for FY 1969 and 314,500 for FY 1970.

(The U.S. Marine Corps reached its greatest strength during World War II with approximately 500,000 men.)

Touching on the deployment of Marine forces, the general noted that over half of the Corps' strength is in the operating forces.

"The majority of these forces is deployed overseas," he said, "including more than 81,000 Marines in South Vietnam, 12,000 elsewhere in the Western Pacific, and another 4,200 Marines in the Caribbean and the Mediterranean." Still others, he said, are assigned to ship detachments. About one in every three Marines is deployed overseas on unaccompanied tours.

He said that during the first two years of the war in Vietnam the Corps' major manpower effort was devoted to building up its total strength as rapidly as possible in order to deploy and sustain the forces required in the Western Pacific.

"We managed to do this without involuntary recall of reservists and with limited use of the draft," Gen. Chapman told the committee.

On the subject of Marine Corps rotation policy, Gen. Chapman said that since the start of the war in Vietnam the policy has been based on a 13-month tour in the Western Pacific. This tour, based on a 395-day basis, commences on departure from CONUS and terminates on return to CONUS.

Marine Corps policy, he said, is to order a Marine involuntarily to a second tour in Vietnam only after all other Marines in his rank and specialty have been assigned an initial tour.

"And no Marine is assigned involuntarily to a second unaccompanied tour in WestPac," the general said, "until he has completed an accompanied tour with dependents, or at least a 24-month assignment in a CONUS-based unit."

Voluntary extensions have a big part in the Marine Corps rotation system. The general pointed out that since the war in Vietnam started, more than 30,000 Marines have voluntarily extended their duty in Vietnam, and another 1,500 Marines are currently serving voluntary second tours.

He said the Corps intends to continue intensive efforts toward improvements of both officer and enlisted retention programs. Increased emphasis has been placed on providing facilities, especially barracks and family housing, to improve the living conditions of the individual Marine.

Another manpower problem touched on by Gen. Chapman, and one not faced by the Corps in other years, is the requirement to release large numbers of Marines prior to the normal expiration of enlistments.

"Our large commitment to the Western Pacific is the driving force in this problem," he said. "To ensure sufficient numbers of deployable Marines to meet this commitment," he continued, "we must artificially create vacancies in our enlisted structure by allowing certain Vietnam veterans to terminate their enlistments up to 12 months early. This program," he added, "was initiated last July and will continue through FY 1970 at least."

**ROBERT F. FROEHLKE**

Assistant Secretary of Defens (Administration).

**BORN:** October 15, 1922, Neenah, Wisconsin.

**EDUCATION:** LL.B. degr from University of Wisconsi Law School in 1949.

**MILITARY SERVICE:** Enliste in the Army in June, 1943. R ceived honorable discharge a a captain in September, 194

Nominated Jan. 21, 1969 b President Nixon to be Assis ant Secretary of Defense (Ad ministration). Confirmed by th Senate Jan. 29. Secretary Defense Melvin R. Laird a ministered the oath of offi Jan. 30.

At the time of his nomin tion, Mr. Froehlke was chai man of the board of Sentr Indemnity Company, presid of Sentry Life Insurance Co pany of New York, and he other offices in the Sentry I surance group.

He married the former Nan J. Barnes of Marshfield, Wi consin. They have four childre

# Participative Style of Management Forecast for Use in Pentagon

The new Assistant Secretary of Defense for Administration has expressed confidence that Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird will initiate a "participative" style of management in the Pentagon.

Robert F. Froehlke said Secretary Laird will adopt this "people type of management, because he is convinced that working with people is the best way to get the job done."

Appearing on the Department of Defense's "Pentagon Forum" TV program, Mr. Froehlke said his style is what the text books call "participative."

It is a style that requires the manager "to bring everybody involved in whenever possible on the beginning step in the management process to the end."

Secretary Froehlke gives this advice:

a. Whenever possible, show consideration for the people with whom you are working and deal them in on the objectives that you are all trying to accomplish. Get them to sit and understand why these objectives are important.

b. Get the views of the people with whom you are working as to how you are going to achieve those objectives. In laying down your plans don't dictate plans; have the people who are going to do the implementation, as much as possible, make their own plans.

c. Get all the people with whom you are working to constantly keep alert as to how the implementation process is going. Everybody should be in the control function of management, not just the boss.

d. After that is accomplished, everybody should look back and say, "Now what can we learn, based on what we wanted to do; how we were going to do it; and how we actually did do it—What did we learn?"

Secretary Froehlke said there are two primary ingredients needed to practice the "participative" style of management:

1—Mutual trust is an abosolute, indispensible ingredient. You have to have respect for your people's integrity and intelligence. If you don't, you are playing games with them when you ask them to work on objectives and on plans.

2—So also is communication. If you are going to work with the people—all the people with whom you are associated—you've got to communicate constantly. You are asking them to do something that it is impossible for them to carry through if they don't know the whole story.

He noted, "Our associates are going to judge us on what we do, how we act, not on what we write or what we say. And in participative management, how we act—how we treat our associates—is vital."

Secretary Froehlke contends that some people question the participative style of management, saying "that you let everybody else do the job."

In the secretary's opinion, "nothing could be further from the truth. I think it is a most difficult job, to get everybody working together for the same objective, following the same plan."

He believes "participative" is the most difficult style of management and also the most successful, when you apply it.

Some people say, the secretary noted, "this style of management is a giant love-in where you let everybody do as he sees fit. But nothing could be further from the truth. Good participative management is a conflict style of management where you've got people who respect each other, sitting down and having a conflict of ideas, and through this conflict you come out with the best possible approach."

Generally, Secretary Froehlke thinks communications is reasonably good from the top down. However, he feels it is also important to have communications from lower levels up.

One means to assist in better communications is asking viewers of Pentagon Forum to submit questions to Armed Forces Press Service. Answers are obtained and published in Armed Forces Press File, which is distributed to information offices for dissemination to members of the Armed Forces through publication in 1,800 U. S. military newspapers around the world.

Mr. Froehlke endorsed the President's plan to take a look at the organization of government and suspects a number of changes will occur, "because organizations should change as people, situations, and the times change."

He noted, "I have no pre-conceived ideas what we are going to do in the Department of Defense, but we will come up with organizational changes—no reflection on the past, but an awareness that as times change, organization should change."

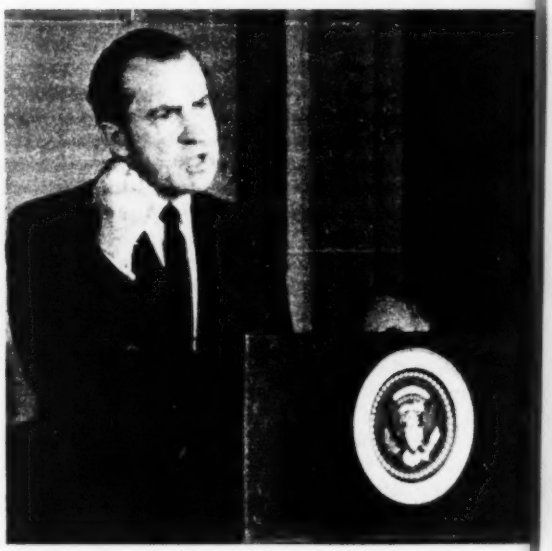
Secretary Froehlke credited World War II military training as being "very beneficial" in his career. He said, "it put me in contact with men who otherwise I wouldn't have had the opportunity to come in contact with. It gave me an opportunity to realize how it is to be at the bottom of the line after it goes from the Secretary of Defense, all the way down to the soldier in the platoon, in the squad.

Mr. Froehlke is a lawyer by trade. He said that law is good training for management, because a lawyer knows there are very few situations that are cut and dried.

**President Assesses East-West Relations**

# NATO Today And Tomorrow

*Commemorating the 20th anniversary of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the Foreign and Defense Ministers of the 15 NATO countries gathered in Washington D.C. April 10 and 11 for an anniversary meeting of the organization's ministerial council. President Nixon addressed the commemorative session April 10. Below are excerpts from his statement assessing NATO's role today and in the future.*



President Nixon addresses NATO Ministers' Confere

No part of the world has a monopoly on wisdom or virtue.

Those who think simply in terms of "good" nations and "bad" nations—of a world of staunch allies and sworn enemies—live in a world of their own. Imprisoned by stereotypes, they do not live in the real world.

On the other hand, those who believe that all it takes to submerge national self-interest is a little better communication, those who think that all that stands in the way of international brotherhood is stubborn leadership—they, too, live in a world of their own. Misled by wishful thinking, they do not live in the real world.

Living in the real world of today means recognizing the sometimes differing interests of the Western nations, while never losing sight of our great common purposes. Living in the real world of today means understanding old concepts of East versus West, understanding and unfreezing those concepts, but never losing sight of great ideological differences that still remain.

Let us then count ourselves today among the hopeful realists.

## NATO Today

As the Alliance begins its third decade . . . there are certain fundamentals to be reaffirmed.

**First,** NATO is needed; and the American commitment to NATO will remain in force and it will remain strong. We in America continue to consider Europe's security to be our own.

**Second,** having succeeded in its original purpose, the Alliance must adapt to the conditions of success. With less of the original cement of fear, we must forge new bonds to maintain our unity.

**Third,** when NATO was founded, the mere fact of cooperation among the Western nations was of tremend significance, both symbolically and substantively. N the symbol is not enough; we need substance. The A ance today will be judged by the content of its coope tion, not merely by its form.

**Fourth,** the allies have learned to harmonize their m tary forces; now, in the light of the vast military, e nomic, and political changes of two decades, we m devise better means of harmonizing our policies.

**Fifth,** by its nature, ours is more than a military a ance; and the time has come to turn a part of our att tion to those nonmilitary areas in which we all co benefit from increased collaboration.

Now, what does all this mean for the future of Western Alliance?

To deal with the real world, we cannot respond to cha ing conditions merely by changing our words. We have adapt our actions.

It is not enough to talk of flexible response, if at same time we reduce our flexibility by cutting back conventional forces.

It is not enough to talk of relaxing tension, unless

keep in mind the fact that 20 years of tension were not caused by superficial misunderstandings. A change of mood is useful only if it reflects some change of mind about political purpose.

It is not enough to talk of European security in the abstract. We must know the elements of insecurity and how to remove them. Conferences are useful if they deal with concrete issues, which means they must, of course, be carefully prepared.

It is not enough to talk of detente, unless at the same time we anticipate the need for giving it the genuine political content that would prevent detente from becoming delusion.

## Arms Control Talks With The USSR

To take one example, a number of America's Western partners have actively supported the idea of strategic arms control talks with the Soviet Union. I support that idea. When such talks are held, we shall work diligently for their success.

But within our Alliance we must recognize that this would imply a military relationship far different from the one that existed when NATO was founded. Let's put it in plain words. The West does not today have the massive nuclear predominance that it once had, and any sort of broad-based arms agreement with the Soviets would codify the present balance.

How would progress towards arms control affect the nature of consultation within our Alliance?

Up to now, our discussions have mainly had to do with tactics . . . We must shake off our preoccupation with formal structure to bring into focus a common world view.

Of course, there is a diversity of policies and interests among the Western nations; and, of course, those differences must be respected. But in shaping the strategies of peace, these differences need not block the way—not if we break through to a new and deeper form of political consultation.

To be specific, the forthcoming arms talks will be a test of the ability of the Western nations to shape a common strategy.

The United States fully intends to undertake deep and genuine consultation with its allies, both before and during any negotiations directly affecting their interests. That is a pledge I shall honor—and I expect to consult at length on the implications of anything that might affect the pattern of East-West relations.

In passing that test together, this Alliance will give new meaning to the principle of mutual consultation.

## New Western Consultation

To seize the moment that this opportunity presents, we would do well to create new machinery for Western political consultation, as well as to make greater use of the machinery that we have.

First, I suggest that Deputy Foreign Ministers meet periodically for a high-level review of major, long-range problems before the Alliance.

Second, I suggest creation of a special political planning group, not to duplicate the work now being done by the council or by the senior political advisers, but to address itself specifically and continually to the longer-range problems we face.

This would by no means preclude efforts to develop a fuller European cooperation. On the contrary, we in the United States would welcome that cooperation. What ties us to Europe is not weakness or division among our partners, but community of interest with them.

Third, I strongly urge that we create a committee on the challenges of modern society, responsible to the Deputy Ministers, to explore ways in which the experience and resources of the Western nations could most effectively be marshaled toward improving the quality of life of our peoples.

For 20 years, our nations have provided for the military defense of Western Europe. For 20 years we have held political consultations. Now the alliance of the West needs a third dimension . . . a social dimension to deal with our concern for the quality of life in this last third of the 20th century.

This concern is manifested in many ways—culturally, technologically, through the humanities and the sciences.

## The Alliance Tomorrow

I believe we must build an Alliance strong enough to deter those who might threaten war, close enough to provide for continuous and far-reaching consultation, trusting enough to accept the diversity of views, realistic enough to deal with the world as it is, and flexible enough to explore new channels of constructive cooperation.

Ten years ago, addressing the North Atlantic Council in this same room, President Eisenhower spoke of the need for unity. Listen to his words. There is not much strength in the finger of one hand, he said, but when five fingers are balled into a fist, you have a considerable instrument of defense.

We need such an instrument of defense and the United States will bear its fair share in keeping NATO strong. All of us are also ready, as conditions change, to turn that fist into a hand of friendship.

NATO means more than arms, troop levels, consultative bodies, and treaty commitments. All of these are necessary. But what makes them relevant to the future is what the Alliance stands for. To discover what this Western Alliance means today, we have to reach back, not across two decades, but through the centuries to the very roots of the Western experience.

When we do, we find that we touch a set of elemental ideals, eloquent in their simplicity, majestic in their humanity, ideals of decency and justice and liberty and respect for the rights of our fellow men . . . These ideals—and the firmness of our dedication to them—give NATO's concept its nobility, and NATO's backbone is steel.

# Unarmed Planes on Reconnaissance Flights Are Now Protected

President Nixon has announced that United States reconnaissance will continue in the Sea of Japan and unarmed planes will be protected from attack by an adversary.

The President spelled out his decision to protect the recon missions after the ill-fated flight of the EC-121. He termed it an "interim decision."

As a result of the loss of the EC-121 on April 14, the Defense Department said Task Force 71 has been activated by the Pacific Fleet. TF 71 is to be commanded by RAdm. Malcolm W. Cagle. His ships include four carriers, three cruisers and 16 destroyers.

The carriers are the Enterprise, Ticonderoga, Ranger and Hornet. The cruisers are the Chicago, Oklahoma City and the St. Paul. The destroyer types are the Sterrett, Dale, Mahan, Tucker, Gurke, J. W. Weeks, L. McCormick, Perry, Meredith, L. K. Swenson, Radford, Parsons, R. B. Anderson, Shelton, E. G. Small and the Davidson.

Explaining the circumstances surrounding the incident, President Nixon said, "The mission was a reconnaissance mission which at no time took the plane closer to the shores of North Korea than 40 miles.

"At the time the plane was shot down, all of the evidence that we have indicates that it was shot down approximately 90 miles from the shores of North Korea while it was moving outward, aborting the mission on orders that had been received. We knew this, based on our radar.

"What is also even more important, the North Koreans knew it, based on their radar. Therefore, this attack was unprovoked. It was deliberate. It was without warning. The protest has been filed. The North Koreans have not responded."

In regard to why the U. S. has such missions in the sea of Japan, President Nixon said there are 56,000 American troops stationed in South Korea. "Those 56,000 men are the responsibility of the President of the United States as Commander-in-Chief.

"In recent weeks and months, in fact, going back over the last two or three years, but particularly in recent weeks and months, North Korea has threatened military action against South Korea and against our forces in South Korea. The number of incidents has increased."

The President said it is the responsibility of the Commander-in-Chief to protect the security of those men. "That is why, going back over 20 years and throughout the period of this Administration being continued, we have had a policy of reconnaissance flights in the Sea of Japan similar to this flight.

"This year we have had already 190 of these flights without incident, without threat, without warning at all."

Mr. Nixon went on to say, "Now the question is: What do we do about these flights in the future? They were discontinued immediately after this incident occurred."

He answered by saying, "I have today ordered that these flights be continued. They will be protected. This is not a threat; it is simply a statement of fact.

"As the Commander-in-Chief of our Armed Forces I cannot and will not ask our men to serve in Korea, and I cannot and will not ask our men to take flights like this in unarmed planes without providing protection. That will be the case.

"Looking to the future, as far as what we do will depend upon the circumstances. It will depend upon what is done as far as North Korea is concerned, its reaction to the protest, and also any other developments that occur as we continue these flights."

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# President Nixon Says U.S. Must Maintain Defensive Strength

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first or at least equal to any potential enemy."

Mr. Nixon emphasized strongly that the other reason was that the Chinese Communists by 1973 or 1974 would have a significant nuclear capability which would "make our diplomacy not credible in the Pacific unless we could protect our country against a Chinese attack aimed at our cities.

"The ABM system will do that, and the ABM safeguard system, therefore, has been adopted for that reason."

The day before the President's news conference, Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird told the American Society of Newspaper Editors, "We have sufficient strength today in the combination of our strategic forces—our missiles, our bombers and our Polaris capability—to respond to any attack that might be launched against the United States."

He said the specific role of the Department of Defense is to ensure the safety and security of the American people beyond any reasonable doubt, and "The maintenance of a credible deterrent is the only effective way to do so. Our deterrent forces, built at great expense, continue to prevent nuclear war and direct armed conflict with another major power, as they have for more than two decades."

He elaborated by saying, "The potential threat from the Soviet Union lies in the fact that it is building at a rapid rate the kinds of weapons that could be used to erode or destroy our deterrent. From the Red Chinese, a potential threat lies in their growing capability to build a small ICBM capacity against our cities."

In answer to a question as to whether the United States or Russia would have the greatest military capability after the current ABM system is completed, Mr. Laird said that it depends on many contingencies, and "At the present time the United States is ahead of the Soviet Union and there is no question about that."

He said, if the Soviet Union should keep up the present program of construction "The Soviet Union would be ahead of the United States in all areas," in that time period.

# Sec. Packard Impressed

(Continued from Page 1)

April 7, Mr. Packard and his party were given the "big" picture by Gen. Lyman L. Lemnitzer, Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, and Gen. David A. Burchinal, Deputy, CINC, European Command.

Other officials briefing Mr. Packard were: Gen. James H. Polk, CINC, USAREUR, and 7th Army; Adm. W. F. A. Wendt, CINC, USNAVEUR; and Gen. Joseph R. Holzapple, CINC, USAFE and Commander for Allied Tactical Air Forces.

Discussed at the command briefing was the stature of the Warsaw Pact Nations and NATO, and the posture of U. S. Forces in Europe. Force readiness, capabilities, limitations and major problem areas were covered by a Component Commander's Briefing.

Generally, Mr. Packard wanted to meet people. On occasion, large groups of junior officers and enlisted men were included in conversations. They were interested in subjects such as: global strategy, arms control, NATO policy, and the ABM.

On April 8, Mr. Packard's party visited the 32d ARADCOM Nike-Hercules Battery at Kleingartach, Germany, and was further impressed by the vast responsibility assumed by junior officers.

He was, however, disturbed by the perhaps unnecessarily complicated machinery and believed there should be a concerted effort to simplify it.

At Grafenwoehr [Army Airfield], the group visited 3rd Armored Division Units currently undergoing training. Here, too, he noted the excellent attitude of the junior officers and enlisted men, as well as their professional bearing.

The Deputy Secretary wasn't idle for many minutes. On April 9 in Nuremberg he and his party visited Headquarters, 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment, Border Security Units, (including ASA sites), and also the 3rd Infantry Division and VII Corps Artillery units.

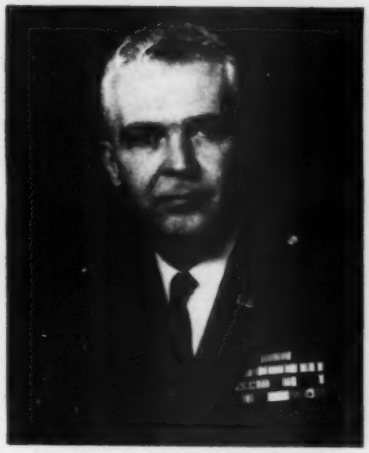
At this point reporters from Stars and Stripes and AFN were heard to remark about the speed with which Mr. Packard moved around.

Those in the official party were: Gen. John McPherson, special assistant to Gen. Earle G. Wheeler, chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff; Col. Ray Furlong, USAF, and Capt. James Wilson, USN, both military assistants to the Deputy Secretary of Defense; Mr. Richard Fryklund, special advisor to the Secretary, and Mr. Ralph Earle, II, principal assistant deputy secretary, International Security Affairs, who will be going to Brussels as the Secretary of Defense representative to NATO.

On April 10, the party visited Kaiserslautern Army Depot, including pre-positioned equipment sites, Headquarters, 17th Air Force and 26th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing. Among other sites visited were: the Bittburg/Spangdahlem complex, 36th Tactical Fighter Wing, 7149th TFW, and the dual-based 49th TFW facilities.

The group visited London April 11.

A visit to Holy Loch, Scotland, was on the agenda, April 12. Once again, Mr. Packard was impressed by the knowledge, technical ability and spirit of the junior officers and enlisted men who keep the Polaris submarines in operation. The group returned to the U.S., April 12.



**ASSUMES COMMAND — Maj. Gen. William C. Gribble Jr. has assumed command of the U.S. Army Engineer Center and Ft. Belvoir, Va. He succeeds Maj. Gen. George H. Walker, who is retiring for medical reasons.**

# New DOD Budget Is $77.5 Billion

(Continued from Page 1)

agement of our weapon system, systems acquisition, which is, of course, heavily in the procurement area," the spokesman said.

The Defense Department budget as of April 15 appears this way: Outlays or expenditures, representing the amounts to be expended from the Treasury Department, will be reduced from $79.0 billion for a new total of $77.9 billion—a reduction of $1.1 billion.

The revised outlay estimates for Fiscal Year 1970 are somewhat lower than both the estimate of $78.4 billion in FY 1969 and the actual total of $78.0 billion for FY 1968.

It was explained that President Nixon has directed a reduction, not across the board, but selectively in government civilian personnel employment. The Defense Department is reflecting in its budget a reduction from the previously planned end strength in FY 1970 of 20,000 civilian personnel spaces. This cut amounts to $70 million in the Defense budget.

But the greatest proportion of the reductions has been taken in procurement accounts.

Also, the Defense Department has reduced the modification program for the B-52's and for the FB-111's.

Regarding military construction changes, it was explained that the largest single piece in the military construction program is the Safeguard. That program amounts to $550 million reduction in military construction in FY 1970.

In new obligational authority the January budget for Southeast Asia was $23.025 billion. It has been reduced by $990 million.

**COMMANDERS DIGEST**

**THIS PUBLICATION CONTAINS OFFICIAL INFORMATION, NEWS AND POLICY, DIRECT FROM WASHINGTON AUTHORIZED SOURCES.**

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# 24 Ships Involved In Navy's Fleet Cutback

The Navy has released names and homeports of 19 ships to be retired and five to be transferred to Naval Reserve status as training units. Five of the 19 ships to be retired are currently serving as Naval Reserve training ships.

These actions are aimed at realizing a budget reduction of $26 million as announced by Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird before the House Committee on Armed Services. They will be part of an announced fleet cutback in the force level for Fiscal Year 1970.

Four of the units are now assigned to the Atlantic Fleet, while the remaining 15 ships are with the Pacific Fleet. As the individual ships are retired, the approximately 300 officers and 4,400 enlisted men aboard the 19 ships will be reassigned to other fleet operating forces or shore activities.

Ships of the Atlantic Fleet to be retired are the conventionally-powered submarine Irex, from Groton, Conn., and another as yet unnamed diesel submarine; the ammunition ship Shasta from Norfolk, Va., and the destroyer Waller, also from Norfolk.

Eight of the Pacific Fleet units affected by the cutback operate from Pearl Harbor. They are the destroyers Taylor, Walker, Jenkins, and Fletcher; also the radar picket escorts Falgout, Vance, Haverfield and Wilhoite.

Other Pacific Fleet ships to be retired are the store ship Aludra, from San Francisco; the destroyer Black, and the self-propelled barracks ship Colleton, both homeported in San Diego; the Naval Reserve training destroyer Marshall, from Tacoma, Wash.; and the Naval Reserve training destroyer escorts Whitehurst from Portland, Ore., Vammen, from Long Beach, Calif., and March, also from Long Beach.

Five ships to be transferred to Naval Reserve training status are the destroyer Huntington, from Mayport, Fla., which will be assigned to Bayonne, N.J., as a training ship. The four other ships will go to the West Coast as Naval Reserve units. They are the Long Beach-based destroyers Maddox, Moore, H. E. Hubbard and Brush.

Also a part of the FY 1970 force level reduction is the temporary inactivation of an Atlantic Fleet aircraft squadron. Patrol Squadron 7 (VP-7), based at the Jacksonville, Fla., Naval Air Station, will be placed in a stand down status pending transition from the P-2 Neptune to P-3 Orion aircraft scheduled for about April 1970.

**VISITS NORAD—Dr. Robert C. Seamans Jr., secretary of the Air Force, is shown with Gen. Raymond J. Reeves, North American Air Defense Command commander in chief, during a visit to the combat operations center at Colorado Springs, Colo. The secretary was briefed on the air defense mission of the joint U.S.-Canadian command.**

## 25,900 June Inductees for Army, Marine Corps

The Department of Defense has requested 25,900 inductees for June—the smallest request thus far this year.

In addition, DOD reduced the 1969 physicians and optometrists draft call by nearly half, due to an increase in voluntary applications for active duty in these fields.

The 1969 medical draft call announced by DOD on Jan. 30, called for 460 physicians and 25 optometrists. The new request is for 24 physicians and 10 optometrists. Thirteen of the physicians will be doctors of osteopathy. All will serve in the Army except the optometrists.

Of the 25,900 regular inductees in June, 23,900 will be assigned to the Army and 2,000 to the Marine Corps.

Draft calls this year have included January — 26,800; February — 33,700; March — 33,100; April — 33,000; and May—27,600.

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